

CLAIMS

I/We claim:

[c1] 1. A method for displaying aircraft operations information onboard an aircraft, comprising:
receiving operations information;
presenting a first portion of the operations information over a first area of a display medium, the first area having a first size;
receiving a signal corresponding to an instruction to increase a fraction of the display medium occupied by the operations information; and
presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area of the display medium, the second area having a second size greater than the first size.

[c2] 2. The method of claim 1 wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area of the display medium includes presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area that includes the first area.

[c3] 3. The method of claim 1 wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area includes presenting the first portion of the operations information and a second portion of the operations information over the second area.

[c4] 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the operations information includes navigation information, and wherein the first portion includes a map covering a first geographical region, and wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area includes presenting a map covering a second geographical region larger than the first geographical region.

[c5] 5. The method of claim 1 wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area includes presenting at least the first portion over a second area of the display medium having a second size at least approximately double the first size.

[c6] 6. The method of claim 1 wherein presenting a first portion of the operations information over a first area of a display medium includes presenting a first category of operations information over the first area of the display medium, and wherein the method further comprises:
presenting a second category of operations information over at least a portion of a remaining area of the display medium; and
updating the information presented over the first area and the remaining area.

[c7] 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the display medium includes a second one of two display media, and wherein the method further comprises determining that a first one of the two display media is faulty, prior to presenting the operations information at the second display medium.

[c8] 8. A method for displaying aircraft operations information onboard an aircraft, comprising:
receiving navigational information corresponding to a location of an aircraft;
presenting a first portion of the navigational information over a first area of a display medium, the first area of the display medium covering approximately half an available area of the display medium, the first portion of the navigational information including an indication of the location of the aircraft and a map covering a first region;
receiving a signal corresponding to an instruction to increase a fraction of the display medium occupied by the navigational information; and

presenting a second portion of the navigational information over a second area of the display medium covering at least approximately the entire available area of the display medium, the second portion of the navigation information including an indication of the location of the aircraft and a map covering a second region larger than the first region.

[c9] 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the display medium includes a second one of two display media, and wherein the method further comprises determining that a first one of the two display media is faulty, prior to presenting the operations information at the second display medium.

[c10] 10. A computer-readable medium for displaying aircraft operations information onboard an aircraft by carrying out a method, comprising:
receiving operations information;
presenting a first portion of the operations information over a first area of a display medium, the first area having a first size;
receiving a signal corresponding to an instruction to increase a fraction of the display medium occupied by the operations information; and
presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area of the display medium, the second area having a second size greater than the first size.

[c11] 11. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area of the display medium includes presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area that includes the first area.

[c12] 12. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area includes

presenting the first portion of the operations information and a second portion of the operations information over the second area.

[c13] 13. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein the operations information includes navigation information, and wherein the first portion includes a map covering a first geographical region, and wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area includes presenting a map covering a second geographical region larger than the first geographical region.

[c14] 14. The computer-readable medium of claim 10 wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area includes presenting at least the first portion over a second area of the display medium having a second size at least approximately double the first size.

[c15] 15. An aircraft, comprising:
a fuselage portion;
a wing portion; and
a computer-readable medium for displaying aircraft operations information onboard an aircraft by carrying out a method, comprising:
receiving operations information;
presenting a first portion of the operations information over a first area of a display medium, the first area having a first size;
receiving a signal corresponding to an instruction to increase a fraction of the display medium occupied by the operations information; and
presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area of the display medium, the second area having a second size greater than the first size.

[c16] 16. The aircraft of claim 15 wherein the operations information includes navigation information, and wherein the first portion includes a map covering a first geographical region, and wherein presenting at least the first portion of the operations information over a second area includes presenting a map covering a second geographical region larger than the first geographical region.

[c17] 17. A method for displaying aircraft operations information onboard an aircraft, comprising:

receiving operations information;

presenting a first portion of the operations information over a first area of a display medium, the first area occupying approximately a first half of an available display area at the display medium;

presenting a second portion of the operations information over a second area of the display medium, the second area occupying approximately a second half of the available display area;

receiving a signal from a user corresponding to an instruction to change the information presented at the first area of the display medium; and

changing the operations information presented at the first area of the display medium without changing the operations information presented at the second area of the display medium or independently of a change in the operations information presented at the second area of the display medium.

[c18] 18. The method of claim 17 wherein presenting a first portion of the operations information includes presenting at least one of navigation information, checklist information, and systems status information.

[c19] 19. An apparatus for controlling information provided on board an aircraft, comprising:

- a first selector portion having plurality of first settings, with individual first settings corresponding to categories of aircraft operations information;
- a menu display operatively coupled to the first selector portion and configured to present groups of selectable options, with individual groups corresponding to individual categories of aircraft operations information; and
- a second selector portion at least proximate to the first selector portion, the second selector portion having plurality of second settings, with individual second settings corresponding to individual selectable options presented at the menu display.

[c20] 20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the first selector portion is rotatable among the individual first settings.

[c21] 21. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the second selector portion is rotatable among the individual second settings.

[c22] 22. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the second selector portion is disposed radially inwardly from the first selector portion.

[c23] 23. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the first and second selector portions are independently rotatable about a common axis.

[c24] 24. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the second selector portion is rotatable among the individual second settings about a rotation axis and movable axially along the rotation axis to activate an individual selectable option presented at the menu display.

[c25] 25. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein the menu display includes a display medium at which aircraft operations information corresponding to the selectable options is presented.

[c26] 26. An aircraft, comprising:
a fuselage portion;
a wing portion, at least one of the wing portion and the fuselage portion including a flight deck, the flight deck including:
a first selector portion having plurality of first settings, with individual first settings corresponding to categories of aircraft operations information;
a menu display operatively coupled to the first selector portion and configured to present groups of selectable options, with individual groups corresponding to individual categories of aircraft operations information; and
a second selector portion at least proximate to the first selector portion, the second selector portion having plurality of second settings, with individual second settings corresponding to individual selectable options presented at the menu display.

[c27] 27. The aircraft of claim 26 wherein the menu display includes a display medium at which aircraft operations information corresponding to the selectable options is presented.

[c28] 28. The aircraft of claim 26 wherein the second selector portion is rotatable among the individual second settings about a rotation axis and movable axially along the rotation axis to activate an individual selectable option presented at the menu display.

[c29] 29. An apparatus for controlling information provided at an aircraft display medium, comprising:

a first rotary switch portion rotatable about a rotation axis to a plurality of first positions, with individual first positions corresponding to categories of aircraft operations information;

a menu display coupled to the first rotary switch portion and configured to present groups of selectable options, with individual groups of selectable options corresponding to individual categories of aircraft operations information;

a second rotary switch portion disposed concentrically and inwardly from the first rotary switch portion to rotate about the rotation axis independently of the first rotary switch portion, the second switch portion having plurality of second positions and being operatively coupled to the menu display, with individual positions corresponding to individual selectable options presented at the menu display, the second rotary switch portion being movable axially along the rotation axis to select one of the selectable options when the second rotary switch is positioned at a corresponding second position.

[c30] 30. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the menu display includes a display medium at which aircraft operations information corresponding to the selectable options is presented.

[c31] 31. A system for displaying aircraft operations information, comprising:

first and second display media, each configured to present at least one of a plurality of different displays, with individual displays corresponding to individual categories of operations information;

a processor configured to receive operations information;

a first selection device coupled between the processor and first display medium, the first selection device having plurality of settings, with

individual settings corresponding to categories of aircraft operations information available for display at the first display medium; and a second selection device coupled between processor and second display medium, the second selection device having plurality of settings, with individual settings corresponding to categories of aircraft operations information available for display at the second display medium.

[c32] 32. The system of claim 31, further comprising:
a first rotary switch portion rotatable about a rotation axis to a plurality of first positions, with individual first positions corresponding to categories of aircraft operations information; and
a second rotary switch portion disposed concentrically inwardly from the first rotary switch portion to rotate about the rotation axis independently of the first rotary switch portion, the second switch portion having plurality of second positions corresponding to individual selectable options available for at least one of the categories of aircraft operations information, the second rotary switch portion being movable axially along the rotation axis to select one of the selectable options when the second rotary switch is positioned at a corresponding second position.

[c33] 33. A system for presenting aircraft operations information, comprising:
a plurality of display media;
a controller coupled to the display media, the controller being configured to:
present flight instrument data on first and second display media;
present engine and corresponding alert data at one of a third and a fourth display medium; and

present selectable data on the other of the third and fourth display media;
a first selector operatively coupled between the controller and the third and fourth display media to direct engine and corresponding alert data to the one of the third and the fourth display media; and
at least one second selector operatively coupled to the third and fourth display media to direct selectable data to the other of the third and fourth display media.

[c34] 34. The system of claim 33, further comprising:
a first operator's seat; and
a second operator's seat proximate to the first operator's seat, and wherein the first and third display media are positioned closer to the first operator's seat than to the second operator's seat.

[c35] 35. The system of claim 33 wherein the plurality of display media includes a fifth display medium.